

fiscal administration mikesell

fiscal administration mikesell is a term that resonates with professionals and students in public finance, budgeting, and management. The book "Fiscal Administration" by John L. Mikesell is widely regarded as a foundational text in understanding government financial operations, revenue generation, expenditure management, and fiscal policy. This comprehensive article explores the core concepts, practical applications, and the impact of Mikesell's authoritative work on fiscal administration. Readers will gain insights into budgeting processes, revenue systems, expenditure controls, and the evolving challenges in public financial management. Additionally, this article highlights why Mikesell's approach remains influential for policymakers and academics, and provides an overview of the essential skills and competencies required for effective fiscal administration. Stay engaged as we delve into the principles, practices, and relevance of fiscal administration according to Mikesell, ensuring a thorough understanding for anyone interested in public finance and administration.

- Understanding Fiscal Administration: The Mikesell Approach
- Key Principles of Public Budgeting
- Revenue Systems and Taxation
- Expenditure Management and Control
- Fiscal Policy Analysis and Implementation
- Challenges in Modern Fiscal Administration
- Essential Skills for Fiscal Administrators
- The Enduring Influence of Mikesell's Work

Understanding Fiscal Administration: The Mikesell Approach

Fiscal administration, as conceptualized by John L. Mikesell, provides a structured framework for managing public financial resources. Mikesell's approach emphasizes the importance of transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government finance. His comprehensive analysis covers the responsibilities of fiscal administrators, the structure of public financial systems, and the integration of fiscal operations with broader governmental objectives. Through detailed exploration of revenue, expenditure, and budgeting, "Fiscal Administration" guides readers through both theoretical foundations and practical applications, ensuring they understand the complexities of public financial management.

Mikesell's work is distinguished by its focus on real-world examples, case studies, and policy analysis. He encourages fiscal administrators to adopt ethical practices, maintain rigorous financial oversight, and utilize data-driven decision-making processes. The book serves as a roadmap for navigating the challenges of fiscal administration, offering actionable strategies for improving governmental financial performance.

Key Principles of Public Budgeting

Budgeting Frameworks in Public Administration

Mikesell outlines various budgeting frameworks, including line-item, performance, and program budgeting. Each framework offers distinct advantages for managing government funds and achieving policy objectives. The selection of a budgeting model depends on organizational needs, resource availability, and the desired outcomes of public programs.

- **Line-Item Budgeting:** Focuses on detailed categories of expenditures, promoting financial control and simplicity.
- **Performance Budgeting:** Links financial resources to measurable outcomes, supporting efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Program Budgeting:** Allocates funds based on program priorities, enhancing strategic planning and resource allocation.

Stages of the Budget Cycle

The budget cycle is a central concept in fiscal administration. Mikesell identifies the following stages: budget preparation, legislative approval, execution, and audit. Each stage requires careful coordination among government agencies, elected officials, and fiscal administrators to ensure that resources are allocated appropriately and that spending aligns with policy goals.

Revenue Systems and Taxation

Sources of Government Revenue

Fiscal administration relies on diverse sources of revenue, including taxes, fees, grants, and intergovernmental transfers. Mikesell emphasizes the need for stable, predictable, and equitable revenue systems to support public services. The book analyzes the advantages and limitations of each revenue source, considering their impact on economic behavior and government budgets.

Principles of Taxation

Taxation is a cornerstone of fiscal administration. Mikesell's principles include equity, efficiency, simplicity, and transparency. He evaluates different tax structures, such as progressive, regressive, and proportional taxes, and discusses their implications for fairness and resource mobilization. Fiscal administrators must design tax policies that balance revenue needs with social and economic considerations.

1. **Equity:** Ensures that tax burdens are distributed fairly among citizens.
2. **Efficiency:** Minimizes distortions in economic decision-making.
3. **Simplicity:** Facilitates compliance and reduces administrative costs.
4. **Transparency:** Enhances public understanding and trust in tax systems.

Expenditure Management and Control

Public Expenditure Policies

Managing government expenditures is a critical aspect of fiscal administration. Mikesell advocates for policies that promote cost-effectiveness, accountability, and long-term sustainability. He examines the criteria for evaluating public spending, including necessity, efficiency, and impact on public welfare.

Techniques for Expenditure Control

Mikesell introduces several techniques for controlling public expenditures, such as internal audits, performance evaluations, and financial reporting systems. These methods help fiscal administrators monitor spending, identify inefficiencies, and prevent fraud or misuse of funds. Effective expenditure control is essential for maintaining fiscal discipline and ensuring that government programs deliver value to citizens.

Fiscal Policy Analysis and Implementation

Role of Fiscal Policy in Government

Fiscal policy involves the use of government spending and taxation to influence economic activity. Mikesell's analysis covers the objectives of fiscal policy, including economic stabilization, growth promotion, and income redistribution. He discusses the tools available to policymakers and the challenges of balancing short-term needs with long-term

fiscal sustainability.

Implementation Strategies

Successful fiscal policy implementation requires coordination among government agencies, clear communication of objectives, and ongoing evaluation of results. Mikesell highlights the importance of stakeholder engagement, adaptability to changing economic conditions, and data-driven decision-making in achieving fiscal policy goals.

Challenges in Modern Fiscal Administration

Emerging Issues in Public Finance

Mikesell addresses the evolving challenges facing fiscal administrators in the modern era. These include globalization, technological change, demographic shifts, and increasing demands for transparency. Fiscal administrators must adapt to new regulatory environments, integrate innovative technologies, and respond to complex social and economic trends.

Risk Management and Financial Oversight

Effective risk management is crucial for safeguarding public resources. Mikesell emphasizes the importance of identifying, assessing, and mitigating financial risks through robust oversight mechanisms. Fiscal administrators should establish clear protocols for managing uncertainty and maintaining the integrity of government finances.

Essential Skills for Fiscal Administrators

Core Competencies in Fiscal Management

Mikesell's work highlights the essential skills required for success in fiscal administration. These include analytical thinking, financial acumen, ethical judgment, and communication proficiency. Fiscal administrators must also possess a strong understanding of public policy, economics, and information technology.

- **Analytical Skills:** Ability to interpret financial data and assess policy impacts.
- **Technical Expertise:** Proficiency in budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting.
- **Ethical Standards:** Commitment to integrity, transparency, and accountability.
- **Leadership Abilities:** Capacity to guide teams, manage change, and foster

collaboration.

- **Communication Skills:** Effective presentation of complex financial information to stakeholders.

The Enduring Influence of Mikesell's Work

Impact on Public Finance Education and Practice

John L. Mikesell's "Fiscal Administration" continues to shape the field of public finance through its rigorous analysis and practical guidance. The book is a core resource for students, educators, and practitioners seeking to master fiscal administration principles. Its influence extends to policy development, government operations, and academic research, reinforcing best practices and ethical standards across the discipline.

Legacy and Future Directions

The enduring relevance of Mikesell's work is reflected in its ability to address both timeless and emerging issues in fiscal administration. As governments confront new fiscal challenges, the principles and frameworks articulated by Mikesell provide a foundation for effective financial management and policy innovation.

Trending Questions and Answers about Fiscal Administration Mikesell

Q: What is the main focus of John L. Mikesell's "Fiscal Administration"?

A: The main focus is on the principles and practices of managing public financial resources, including budgeting, revenue generation, expenditure control, and fiscal policy analysis.

Q: How does Mikesell define effective fiscal administration?

A: Effective fiscal administration is defined by transparency, accountability, efficiency, and ethical practices in government financial management.

Q: What are the primary stages of the budget cycle according to Mikesell?

A: The primary stages are budget preparation, legislative approval, execution, and audit.

Q: Why is revenue diversification important in fiscal administration?

A: Revenue diversification ensures stability, predictability, and sustainability of government finances, reducing reliance on any single source.

Q: What are key principles of taxation highlighted by Mikesell?

A: Key principles include equity, efficiency, simplicity, and transparency to create fair and effective tax systems.

Q: What skills are critical for a successful fiscal administrator?

A: Critical skills include analytical thinking, technical expertise in finance, ethical judgment, leadership, and communication proficiency.

Q: How does Mikesell address challenges in modern fiscal administration?

A: He emphasizes adaptation to technological changes, globalization, increased transparency, and effective risk management.

Q: What impact has Mikesell's book had on public finance education?

A: Mikesell's book is a foundational text in academic programs, shaping best practices and ethical standards in public finance education.

Q: What is the role of fiscal policy in government operations according to Mikesell?

A: Fiscal policy is used to stabilize the economy, promote growth, and redistribute income through strategic government spending and taxation.

Q: How can fiscal administrators ensure accountability in government spending?

A: Accountability can be ensured through internal audits, performance evaluations, clear financial reporting, and adherence to ethical standards.

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Fiscal Administration Mikesell: A Deep Dive into Public Financial Management

Are you grappling with the complexities of public finance? Understanding fiscal administration is crucial for anyone involved in government, policymaking, or simply interested in how public funds are managed. This comprehensive guide explores the seminal work of Raymond Mikesell, a prominent figure in the field of fiscal administration, delving into his key contributions and their enduring relevance today. We will unpack his core concepts, explore their applications, and discuss their implications for modern public financial management. Prepare to gain a clearer understanding of the principles that underpin sound fiscal administration.

H2: Raymond Mikesell: A Pioneer in Fiscal Administration

Raymond Mikesell, a renowned economist and scholar, significantly shaped our understanding of fiscal administration. His contributions, notably through his prolific writings and academic influence, established foundational principles still widely taught and practiced today. He moved beyond simple accounting and budgeting to address the broader political and economic context within which fiscal decisions are made. Mikesell emphasized the importance of aligning fiscal policies with national development goals, fostering accountability, and ensuring efficiency in resource allocation.

H2: Key Concepts in Mikesell's Fiscal Administration Framework

Mikesell's framework for fiscal administration isn't confined to a single, concise definition but rather a collection of interconnected principles. These principles aim to create a robust, efficient, and transparent system of public finance.

H3: Fiscal Policy Coordination

Mikesell stressed the critical importance of coordination between different levels of government. Efficient fiscal administration requires alignment between national, regional, and local fiscal policies to avoid duplication, conflict, and resource wastage. His work highlighted the need for clear lines of responsibility and effective mechanisms for intergovernmental cooperation.

H3: Fiscal Decentralization and Local Autonomy

Mikesell explored the benefits and challenges of fiscal decentralization, advocating for a balance between central control and local autonomy. He recognized the importance of empowering local governments to manage their own resources while ensuring accountability and adherence to national fiscal goals. This concept remains highly relevant in today's increasingly decentralized political landscapes.

H3: Revenue Mobilization and Expenditure Management

Mikesell's work emphasized a comprehensive approach to public finance, encompassing both revenue generation and expenditure control. He analyzed various tax systems, exploring their effectiveness, equity, and efficiency. He also highlighted the necessity for sound expenditure management, emphasizing budgeting processes that are transparent, participatory, and aligned with national priorities.

H3: Public Debt Management

Mikesell's analysis extended to the crucial area of public debt management. He recognized the potential risks associated with excessive public borrowing and stressed the importance of sustainable debt levels. His work underscored the need for responsible borrowing practices and transparent reporting on public debt obligations.

H2: The Enduring Relevance of Mikesell's Work

Despite being written decades ago, Mikesell's principles remain incredibly relevant in the 21st century. The challenges of managing public finances – balancing competing demands, ensuring transparency, fostering accountability, and navigating global economic uncertainties – remain central concerns. His emphasis on institutional capacity building, effective monitoring, and performance evaluation continues to guide the efforts of governments around the world striving for good governance.

H2: Applying Mikesell's Principles in Modern Fiscal Administration

Mikesell's framework provides a valuable lens through which to analyze contemporary fiscal challenges. His emphasis on coordinating fiscal policies, for example, remains crucial in addressing issues such as regional disparities or the efficient allocation of resources during crises. His insights on revenue mobilization and expenditure management are essential for navigating budget constraints and ensuring the effective use of public funds. Furthermore, his work on public debt management offers valuable guidance for governments grappling with high levels of debt.

H2: Beyond the Textbook: Real-World Applications

Mikesell's ideas are not merely theoretical; they are reflected in the practical application of fiscal policies across numerous nations. Successful examples of fiscal reforms often incorporate aspects of his framework, demonstrating the continued relevance and practicality of his contributions. Understanding his work enhances the ability to analyze and critique existing fiscal systems and propose effective reforms.

Conclusion

Raymond Mikesell's enduring contribution to fiscal administration lies in his holistic approach, emphasizing the interconnectedness of various aspects of public finance. His work provides a framework for understanding and improving the management of public resources, promoting good governance, and fostering economic development. By understanding and applying Mikesell's principles, governments and policymakers can build more effective and accountable public financial systems.

FAQs

1. What is the central theme of Mikesell's work on fiscal administration? Mikesell's central theme is the need for a comprehensive and coordinated approach to public finance, balancing revenue mobilization with effective expenditure management, while considering political and economic contexts.
2. How does Mikesell's work relate to modern challenges in public finance? Mikesell's emphasis on transparency, accountability, and effective institutional capacity remains highly relevant in addressing contemporary challenges such as budget deficits, public debt, and the need for efficient service delivery.
3. What are some criticisms of Mikesell's framework? Some critics argue that Mikesell's framework may be overly idealistic, neglecting the influence of political pressures and vested interests on fiscal decision-making.
4. How can policymakers utilize Mikesell's ideas to improve fiscal administration in their countries? Policymakers can use Mikesell's work as a guide to design more efficient and transparent revenue collection systems, improve budgetary processes, and strengthen intergovernmental coordination.
5. What are some key resources for further learning about Mikesell's work on fiscal administration? Researchers should explore Mikesell's published works, academic papers referencing his contributions, and textbooks on public finance that incorporate his concepts. Consulting academic databases using keywords like "fiscal administration," "Raymond Mikesell," and "public finance" will reveal a wealth of information.

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Martinez-Vazquez, Joan M. Youngman, 2008 Students of public finance and fiscal decentralization in developing and transitional countries have long argued for more intensive use of the property tax. It would seem the ideal choice for financing local government services. Based on a Lincoln Institute conference held in October 2006, the chapters in this book take this argument one step further in drawing on recent experience with property tax policy and administration. Two main sets of issues are addressed. First, why hasn't the property tax worked well in most developing and transitional countries? Second, what can be done to make the property tax a more relevant source for local governments in those countries? The numerous advantages of the property tax as a local government revenue source are analyzed and discussed in detail as are the many perceived disadvantages.

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management, human resource management, financial management, auditing and accountability, and ethics.

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the essential financial concepts and analytical tools that today's effective public servants need to know. It starts at the beginning and assumes no prior knowledge or experience in financial management. Throughout the text, Kioko and Marlowe emphasize how financial information can and should inform every aspect of public sector strategy, from routine procurement decisions to budget preparation to program design to major new policy initiatives. They draw upon dozens of real-world examples, cases, and applied problems to bring that relationship between information and strategy to life. Unlike other public financial management texts, the authors also integrate foundational principles across the government, non-profit, and hybrid/for-benefit sectors. Coverage includes basic principles of accounting and financial reporting, preparing and analyzing financial statements, cost analysis, and the process and politics of budget preparation. The text also includes several large case studies appropriate for class discussion and/or graded assignments.

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Africa region. This volume attempts to provide practical guidance to local governments interested in establishing sound financial management systems. Leading international experts have contributed to all relevant aspects of local public financial management - cash management, internal controls, accounts, audits, and debt management.

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fiscal administration mikesell: *The Oxford Handbook of State and Local Government Finance* Robert D. Ebel, John E. Petersen, 2012-03-21 This handbook evaluates the persistent problems in the fiscal systems of state and local governments and what can be done to solve them. Each chapter provides a description of the discipline area, examines major developments in policy practices and research, and opines on future prospects.

fiscal administration mikesell: *Fiscal Management* World Bank, 2005 Accountability of government to citizens is the foundation for good governance. Unfortunately, many developing countries suffer the results of dysfunctional governance systems that fail to provide even minimal levels of vital public services. The key message of the New Institutional Economics is that incentives matter. In the public sphere, the countries' accountability frameworks rewards, sanctions, and measurement of performance shape public sector performance. This book applies this fundamental insight to fiscal/budgetary analysis and public service delivery, giving the reader tools and around the globe examples of institutional arrangements that help citizens hold government accountable for their performance.

fiscal administration mikesell: Financing Metropolitan Governments in Developing Countries Roy W. Bahl, Johannes F. Linn, Deborah L. Wetzel, 2013 The economic activity that drives growth in developing countries is heavily concentrated in cities. Catchphrases such as "metropolitan areas are the engines that pull the national economy" turn out to be fairly accurate. But the same advantages of metropolitan areas that draw investment also draw migrants who need jobs and housing, lead to demands for better infrastructure and social services, and result in increased congestion, environmental harm, and social problems. The challenges for metropolitan public finance are to capture a share of the economic growth to adequately finance new and growing expenditures and to organize governance so that services can be delivered in a cost-effective way, giving the local population a voice in fiscal decision making. At the same time, care must be taken to avoid overregulation and overtaxation, which will hamper the now quite mobile economic engine of private investment and entrepreneurial initiative. Metropolitan planning has become a reality in most large urban areas, even though the planning agencies are often ineffective in moving things forward and in linking their plans with the fiscal and financial realities of metropolitan government. A growing number of success stories in metropolitan finance and management, together with accumulated experience and proper efforts and support, could be extended to a broader array of forward-looking programs to address the growing public service needs of metropolitan-area populations.

Nevertheless, sweeping metropolitan-area fiscal reforms have been few and far between; the urban policy reform agenda is still a long one; and there is a reasonable prospect that closing the gaps between what we know how to do and what is actually being done will continue to be difficult and slow. This book identifies the most important issues in metropolitan governance and finance in developing countries, describes the practice, explores the gap between practice and what theory suggests should be done, and lays out the reform paths that might be considered. Part of the solution will rest in rethinking expenditure assignments and instruments of finance. The “right” approach also will depend on the flexibility of political leaders to relinquish some control in order to find a better solution to the metropolitan finance problem.

fiscal administration mikesell: *Sustainable Urban Transport Financing from the Sidewalk to the Subway* Arturo Ardila-Gomez, Adriana Ortega-Sánchez, 2015-12-31 Urban transport systems are essential for economic development and improving citizens' quality of life. To establish high-quality and affordable transport systems, cities must ensure their financial sustainability to fund new investments in infrastructure while also funding maintenance and operation of existing facilities and services. However, many cities in developing countries are stuck in an underfunding trap for urban transport, in which large up-front investments are needed for new transport infrastructure that will improve the still small-scale, and perhaps, poor-quality systems, but revenue is insufficient to cover maintenance and operation expenses, let alone new investment projects. The urban transport financing gap in these cities is further widened by the implicit subsidies for the use of private cars, which represent a minority of trips but contribute huge costs in terms of congestion, sprawl, accidents, and pollution. Using an analytical framework based on the concept of Who Benefits Pays, 24 types of financing instruments are assessed in terms of their social, economic and environmental impacts and their ability to fund urban transport capital investments, operational expenses, and maintenance. Urban transport financing needs to be based on an appropriate mix of complementary financing instruments. In particular for capital investments, a combination of grants †“from multiple levels of government†” and loans together with investments through public private partnerships could finance large projects that benefit society. Moreover, the property tax emerges as a key financing instrument for capital, operation, and maintenance expenses. By choosing the most appropriate mix of financing instruments and focusing on wise investments, cities can design comprehensive financing for all types of urban transport projects, using multi-level innovative revenue sources that promote efficient pricing schemes, increase overall revenue, strengthen sustainable transport, and cover capital investments, operation, and maintenance for all parts of a public transport system, from the sidewalk to the subway.

fiscal administration mikesell: *Revenue Mobilization in Developing Countries* International Monetary Fund. Fiscal Affairs Dept., 2011-08-03 The Fund has long played a lead role in supporting developing countries' efforts to improve their revenue mobilization. This paper draws on that experience to review issues and good practice, and to assess prospects in this key area.

fiscal administration mikesell: *The Bretton Woods Debates* Raymond Frech Mikesell, Raymond F. Mikesell, 1994

fiscal administration mikesell: *Rethinking Property Tax Incentives for Business* Daphne A. Kenyon, Adam H. Langley, Bethany P. Paquin, 2012 The use of property tax incentives for business by local governments throughout the United States has escalated over the last 50 years. While there is little evidence that these tax incentives are an effective instrument to promote economic development, they cost state and local governments \$5 to \$10 billion each year in forgone revenue. Three major obstacles can impede the success of property tax incentives as an economic development tool. First, incentives are unlikely to have a significant impact on a firm's profitability since property taxes are a small part of the total costs for most businesses--averaging much less than 1 percent of total costs for the U.S. manufacturing sector. Second, tax breaks are sometimes given to businesses that would have chosen the same location even without the incentives. When this happens, property tax incentives merely deplete the tax base without promoting economic development. Third, widespread use of incentives within a metropolitan area reduces their

effectiveness, because when firms can obtain similar tax breaks in most jurisdictions, incentives are less likely to affect business location decisions. This report reviews five types of property tax incentives and examines their characteristics, costs, and effectiveness: property tax abatement programs; tax increment finance; enterprise zones; firm-specific property tax incentives; and property tax exemptions in connection with issuance of industrial development bonds. Alternatives to tax incentives should be considered by policy makers, such as customized job training, labor market intermediaries, and business support services. State and local governments also can pursue a policy of broad-based taxes with low tax rates or adopt split-rate property taxation with lower taxes on buildings than land. State policy makers are in a good position to increase the effectiveness of property tax incentives since they control how local governments use them. For example, states can restrict the use of incentives to certain geographic areas or certain types of facilities; publish information on the use of property tax incentives; conduct studies on their effectiveness; and reduce destructive local tax competition by not reimbursing local governments for revenue they forgo when they award property tax incentives. Local government officials can make wiser use of property tax incentives for business and avoid such incentives when their costs exceed their benefits. Localities should set clear criteria for the types of projects eligible for incentives; limit tax breaks to mobile facilities that export goods or services out of the region; involve tax administrators and other stakeholders in decisions to grant incentives; cooperate on economic development with other jurisdictions in the area; and be clear from the outset that not all businesses that ask for an incentive will receive one. Despite a generally poor record in promoting economic development, property tax incentives continue to be used. The goal is laudable: attracting new businesses to a jurisdiction can increase income or employment, expand the tax base, and revitalize distressed urban areas. In a best case scenario, attracting a large facility can increase worker productivity and draw related firms to the area, creating a positive feedback loop. This report offers recommendations to improve the odds of achieving these economic development goals.

fiscal administration mikesell: *A Good Tax* Joan Youngman, 2016 In *A Good Tax*, tax expert Joan Youngman skillfully considers how to improve the operation of the property tax and supply the information that is often missing in public debate. She analyzes the legal, administrative, and political challenges to the property tax in the United States and offers recommendations for its improvement. The book is accessibly written for policy analysts and public officials who are dealing with specific property tax issues and for those concerned with property tax issues in general.

fiscal administration mikesell: *The Road to Results* Linda G. Morra-Imas, Linda G. Morra, Ray C. Rist, 2009 'The Road to Results: Designing and Conducting Effective Development Evaluations' presents concepts and procedures for evaluation in a development context. It provides procedures and examples on how to set up a monitoring and evaluation system, how to conduct participatory evaluations and do social mapping, and how to construct a rigorous quasi-experimental design to answer an impact question. The text begins with the context of development evaluation and how it arrived where it is today. It then discusses current issues driving development evaluation, such as the Millennium Development Goals and the move from simple project evaluations to the broader understandings of complex evaluations. The topics of implementing 'Results-based Measurement and Evaluation' and constructing a 'Theory of Change' are emphasized throughout the text. Next, the authors take the reader down 'the road to results,' presenting procedures for evaluating projects, programs, and policies by using a 'Design Matrix' to help map the process. This road includes: determining the overall approach, formulating questions, selecting designs, developing data collection instruments, choosing a sampling strategy, and planning data analysis for qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method evaluations. The book also includes discussions on conducting complex evaluations, how to manage evaluations, how to present results, and ethical behavior—including principles, standards, and guidelines. The final chapter discusses the future of development evaluation. This comprehensive text is an essential tool for those involved in development evaluation.

fiscal administration mikesell: *Why Budgets Matter* Dennis S. Ippolito, 2010-11-01 Much of

what government does depends on money. From the nation's founding until today, conflicts over the powers to tax, spend, and borrow have been at the heart of American politics. *Why Budgets Matter* is a comprehensive account of how these conflicts over budget policy have shaped national politics by determining the size and role of the federal government. In *Why Budgets Matter* Dennis Ippolito offers new insights into the enduring debate over limited government versus big government in the United States. This book will be a valuable resource for students, scholars, and policymakers seeking a better understanding of the background to the fiscal problems we face today.

fiscal administration mikesell: *The Oxford Handbook of American Bureaucracy* Robert F. Durant, 2012-08-02 One of the major dilemmas facing the administrative state in the United States today is discerning how best to harness for public purposes the dynamism of markets, the passion and commitment of nonprofit and volunteer organizations, and the public-interest-oriented expertise of the career civil service. Researchers across a variety of disciplines, fields, and subfields have independently investigated aspects of the formidable challenges, choices, and opportunities this dilemma poses for governance, democratic constitutionalism, and theory building. This literature is vast, affords multiple and conflicting perspectives, is methodologically diverse, and is fragmented. The *Oxford Handbook of American Bureaucracy* affords readers an uncommon overview and integration of this eclectic body of knowledge as adduced by many of its most respected researchers. Each of the chapters identifies major issues and trends, critically takes stock of the state of knowledge, and ponders where future research is most promising. Unprecedented in scope, methodological diversity, scholarly viewpoint, and substantive integration, this volume is invaluable for assessing where the study of American bureaucracy stands at the end of the first decade of the 21st century, and where leading scholars think it should go in the future. The *Oxford Handbooks of American Politics* are a set of reference books offering authoritative and engaging critical overviews of the state of scholarship on American politics. Each volume focuses on a particular aspect of the field. The project is under the General Editorship of George C. Edwards III, and distinguished specialists in their respective fields edit each volume. The Handbooks aim not just to report on the discipline, but also to shape it as scholars critically assess the scholarship on a topic and propose directions in which it needs to move. The series is an indispensable reference for anyone working in American politics. General Editor for The *Oxford Handbooks of American Politics*: George C. Edwards III

fiscal administration mikesell: Fiscal Transparency, Accountability, and Risk International Monetary Fund. Fiscal Affairs Dept., International Monetary Fund. Statistics Dept., 2012-07-08 This paper surveys that state of fiscal transparency in the wake of the current crisis and looks at what can be done to improve it. It examines the relationship between fiscal transparency and fiscal outcomes; reviews progress in promoting greater fiscal transparency over the past decade; considers the lessons of the recent crisis for existing fiscal transparency standards, practices, and monitoring arrangements; and makes a series of recommendations for renewing the global fiscal transparency effort in the wake of the crisis.

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